

# Hunting Accident Report

## 2004

By Timothy J. Lawhern and Evelyn Wilson

Hunting Accident -- is that in which a person is injured by the discharge of a hunting firearm or bow and arrow outside of the home and arising from the activity of hunting, including travel to and from the hunting field.

There were 41 total hunting incidents during the 2004 hunting season, including 2 fatal incidents. Both of these fatal incidents occurred during the gun deer season. In 2004 we certified 30,877 Basic Hunter Education students and 495 new volunteer Hunter Education Instructors. We also certified 3,351 students in Bow Hunter Education and 124 new volunteer Bow Hunter Instructors. Thanks to our volunteer Hunter Education Instructors hunting is a safe activity in Wisconsin.

Twenty-two of the total incidents for the year occurred in the months of October and November, with November having 8 of that figure. Three months of the year, June, July and August had no hunting incidents. The weekends accounted for 70% of all incidents. Between 4:00 AM and 6:00 AM there was 1 accident. Between 6:00 AM and 12:00 PM there were 11 incidents, with 14 between 12:00 PM and 4:00 PM. Ten incidents took place between 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM. There were 4 incidents between 6:00 PM and 12:00 AM.

In order of species hunted the incident totals were deer 18%, turkey 13%, rabbit 13%, squirrel 22% pheasant 5% waterfowl 8%, and grouse at 5% each.

The types of firearms involved in incidents included 59% shotguns, 34% rifles, and 3% handguns and bows. Semi auto actions were involved in 31% of the incidents and slide actions 31%.

Members of the same party were involved in 57% (27) of the 2 party incidents. Self inflicted incidents account for 31% (12) of the incidents. These figures lend truth to the slogan "Choose your hunting partners as if your life depends on it, because it just might!" The shooter could see the victim in 43% (15) of these incidents. There were 16 self inflicted incidents.

Shooters with 20+ years of experience accounted for 32% (12), and 0 to 5 years of experience accounted for 38% (16), and 6 to 10 years 20% (8), 11 to 15 years 5% (2), and 16 to 20 year olds 5% (1) of the incidents that occurred.

The age of shooters involved in all incidents is: over 60 years old 2% (1), age 50-59 year olds 14% (6), 40 to 49 years old 9% (4), 30 to 39 year olds 18% (8), 24 to 29 year olds 7% (3), 18 to 23 year olds 14% (6), with the leading age group the 12 to 17 year olds 29% (13) shooters in incidents. Unknown shooters is 5% (3).

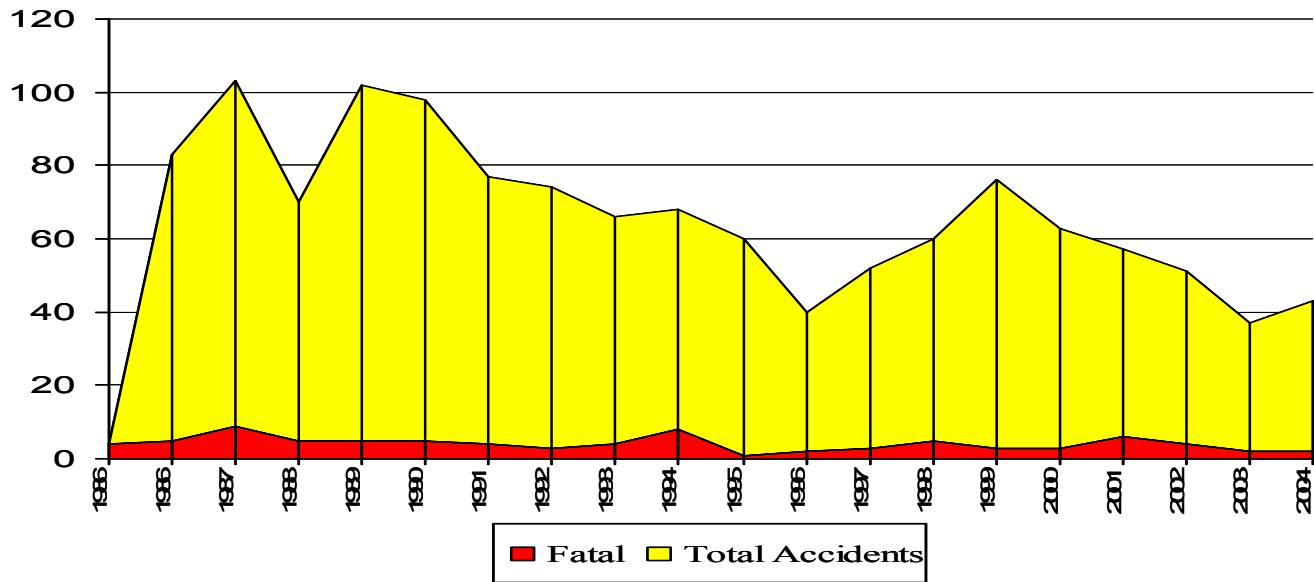
To summarize this report, incident totals were lower than the 10 year average for both the deer gun season and the entire year. There were 2 Deer hunting fatal incidents. The point of always identifying your target before shooting needs to be reinforced by all hunters. Even as we congratulate ourselves we must continue to improve on this record because as we all know any incident is ONE too many. Remember the slogan "Safe Hunting is No Accident."

Timothy J. Lawhern  
Hunter Education Administrator

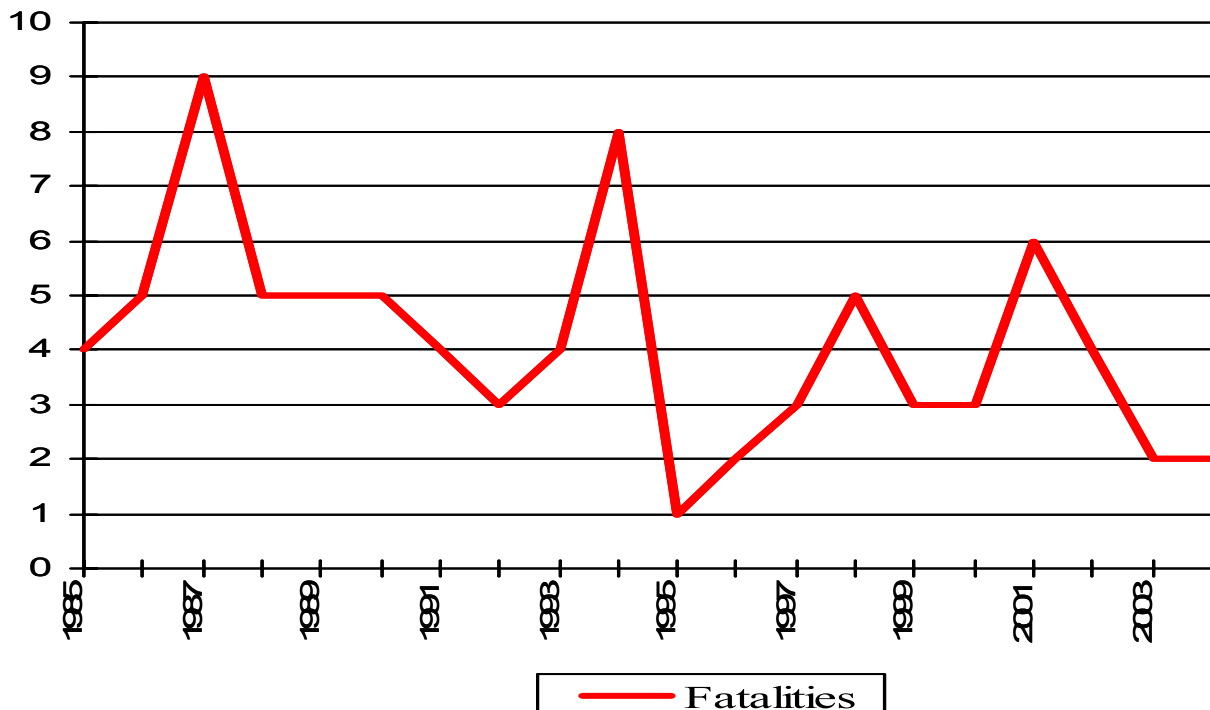
Evelyn M. Wilson  
Hunter Education Program Assistant

Bureau of Law Enforcement  
PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707  
Telephone (608) 266-2141

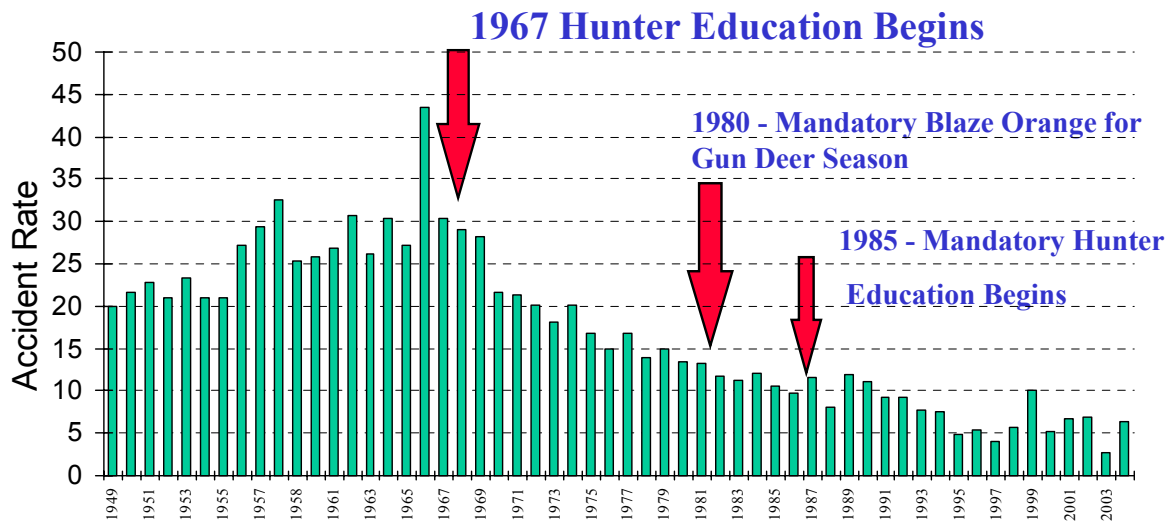
## History of Hunting Incidents



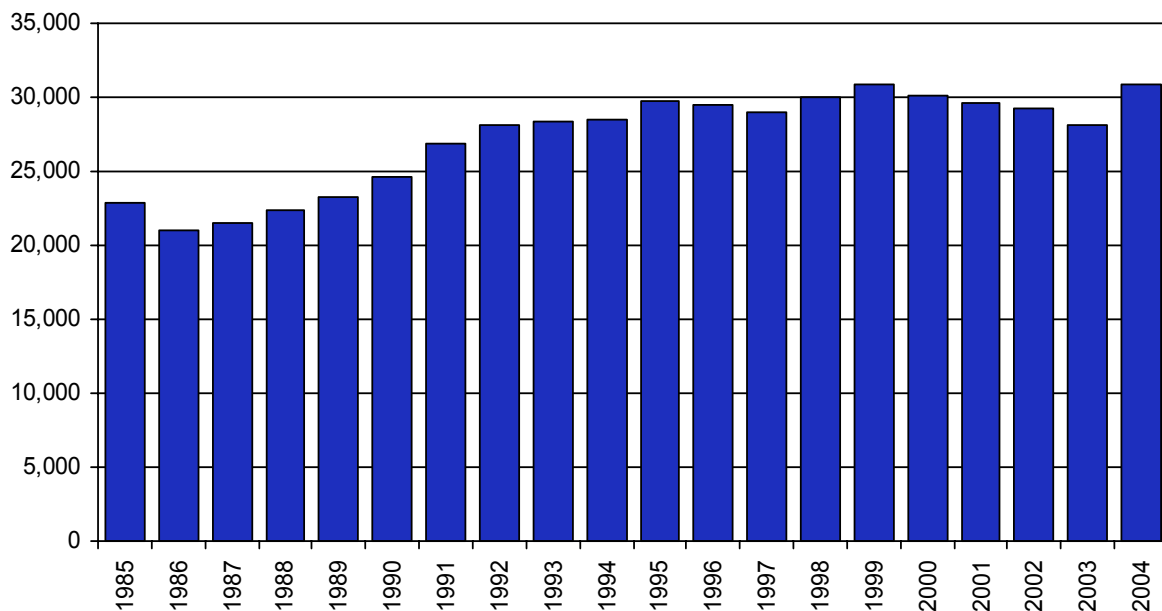
## History of Fatalities



## Wisconsin Hunting Incident Rate Per 100,000 Hunters



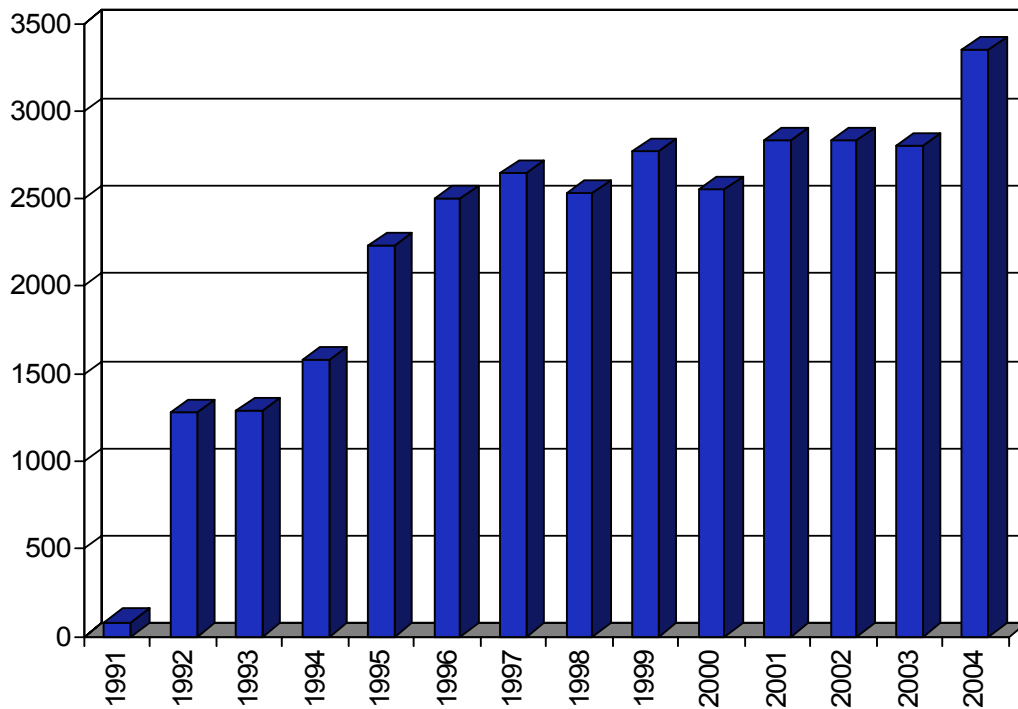
## Hunter Education Students Certified



Total Hunter Education Students Certified 30,877

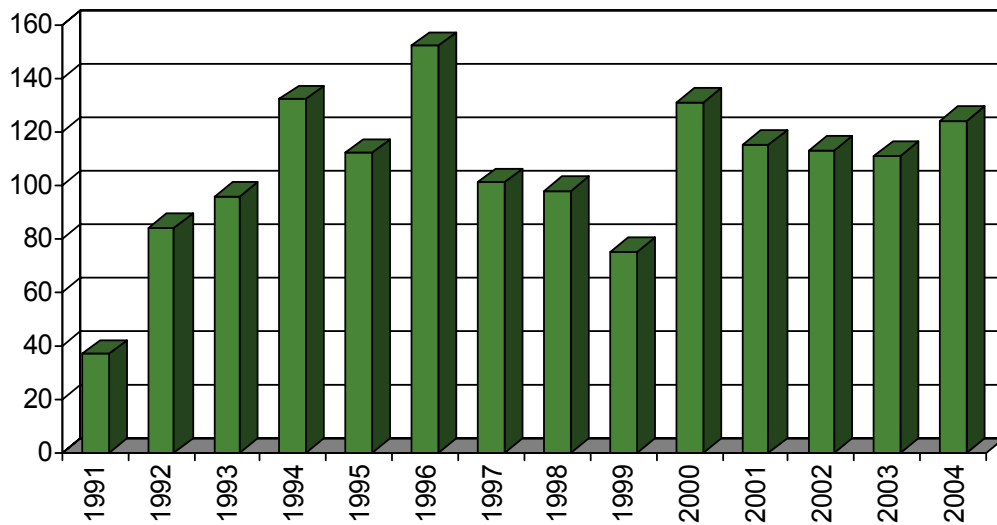
# BOWHUNTER EDUCATION

## Students Certified



# BOWHUNTER EDUCATION

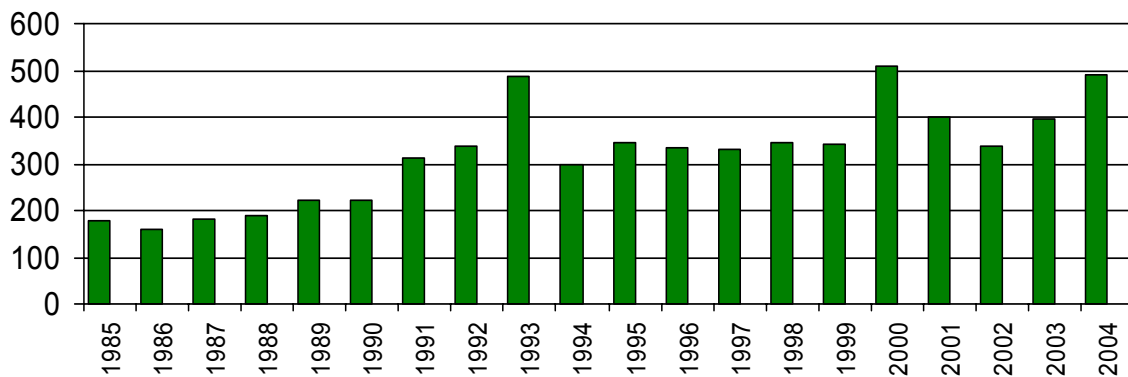
## Instructors Certified



Total Active Instructors - 558

# HUNTER EDUCATION

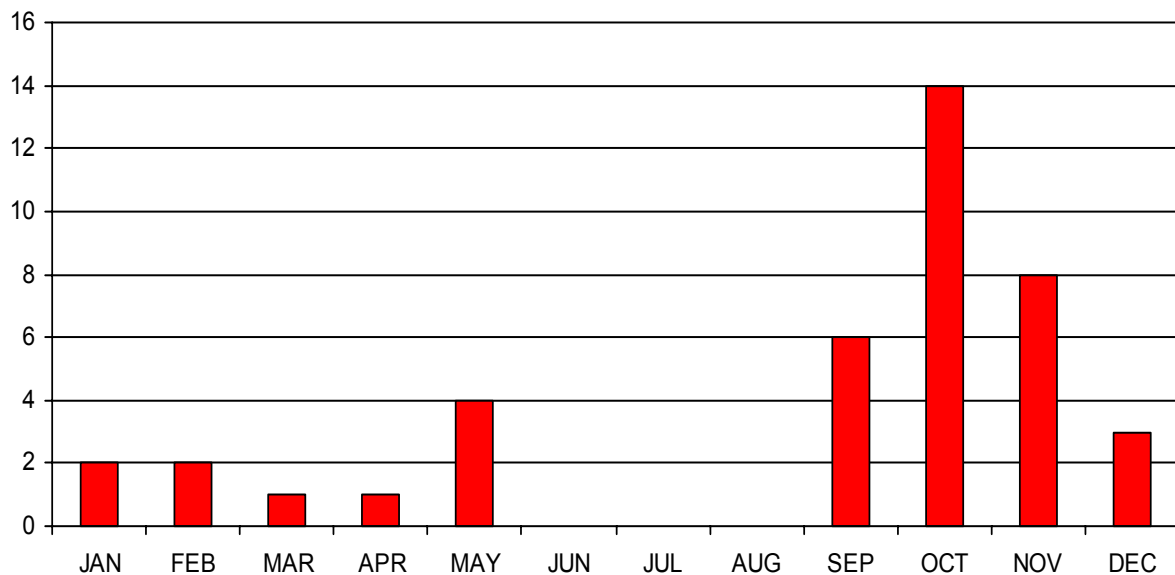
## Instructors Certified



Total Active Instructors = 3,856

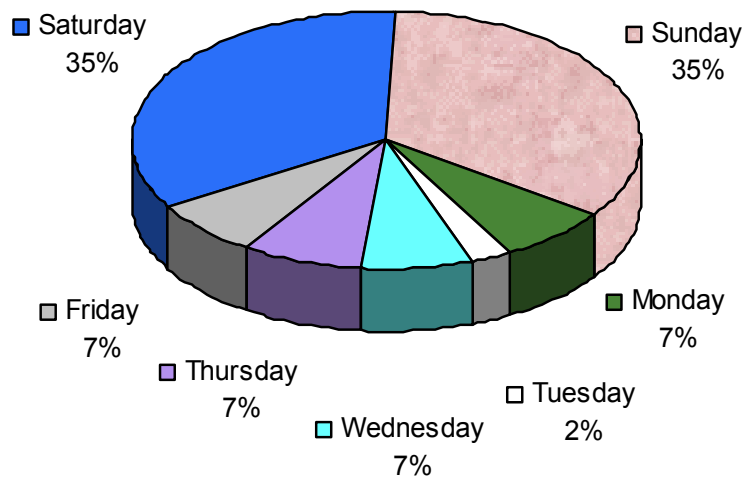
## Month of Incident

### All Incidents 2004



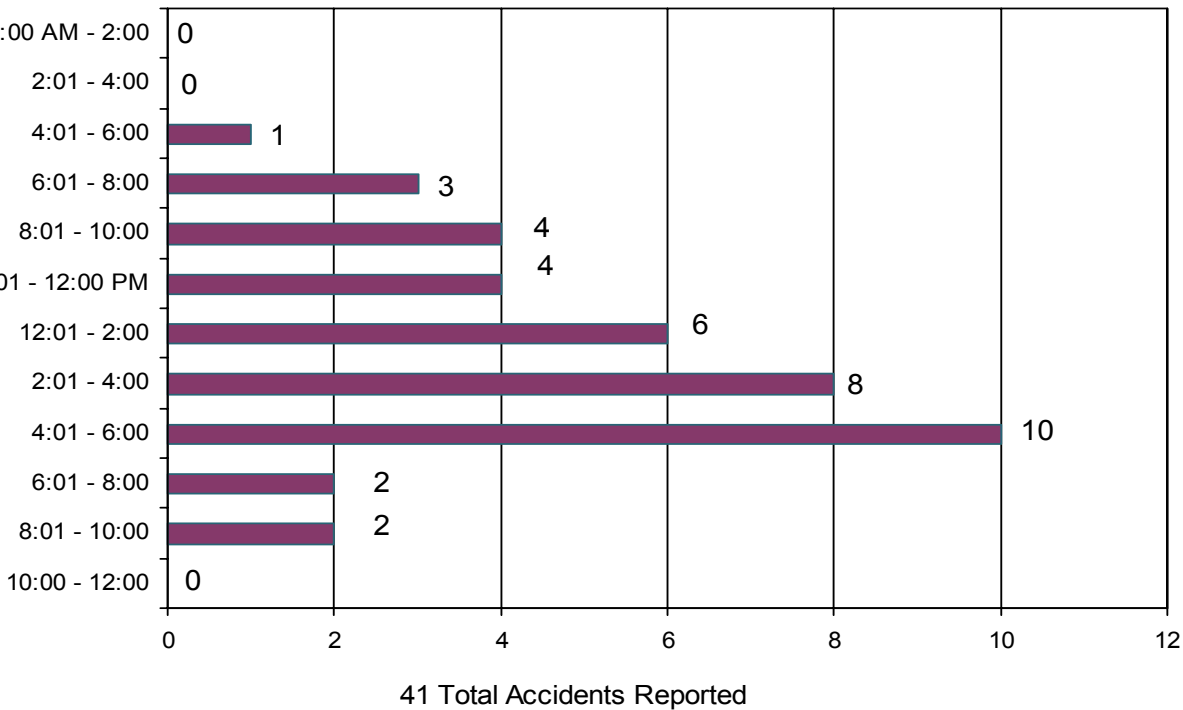
# INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK

All Incidents 2004



# TIME OF DAY

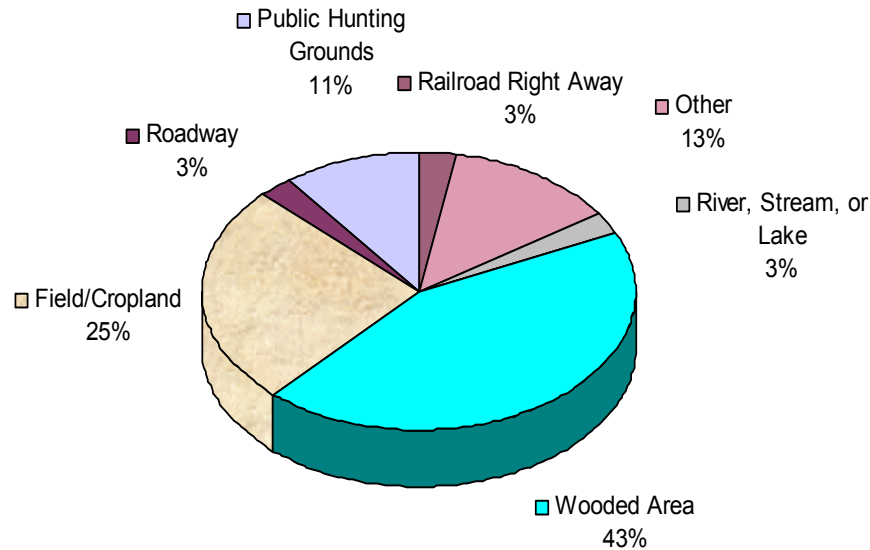
All Incidents 2004



# WHERE INCIDENTS OCCURRED

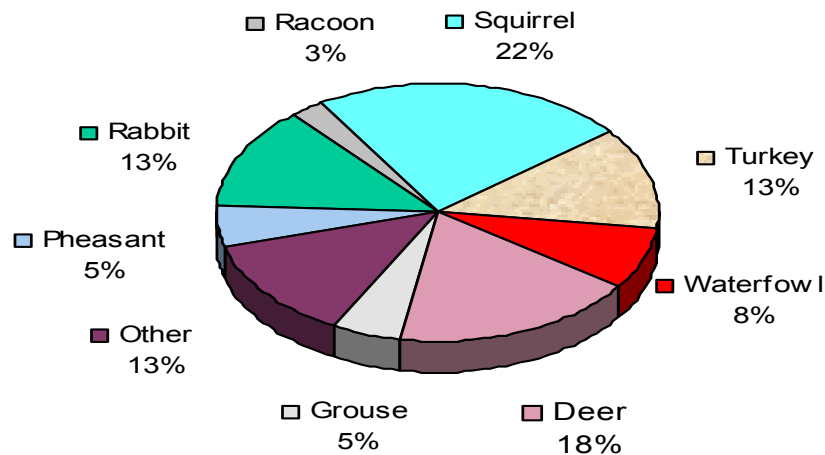
All Incidents 2004

Type of Land



# ANIMALS HUNTED BY SHOOTER

All Incidents 2004



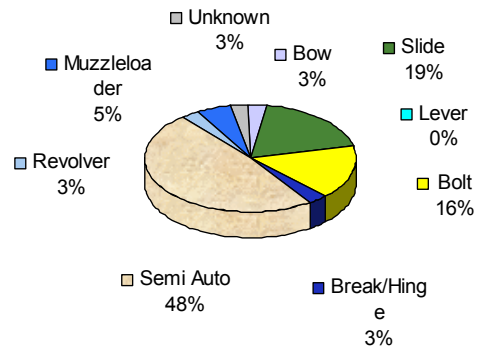
# FIREARMS INVOLVED IN INCIDENTS

All Incidents 2004

Type

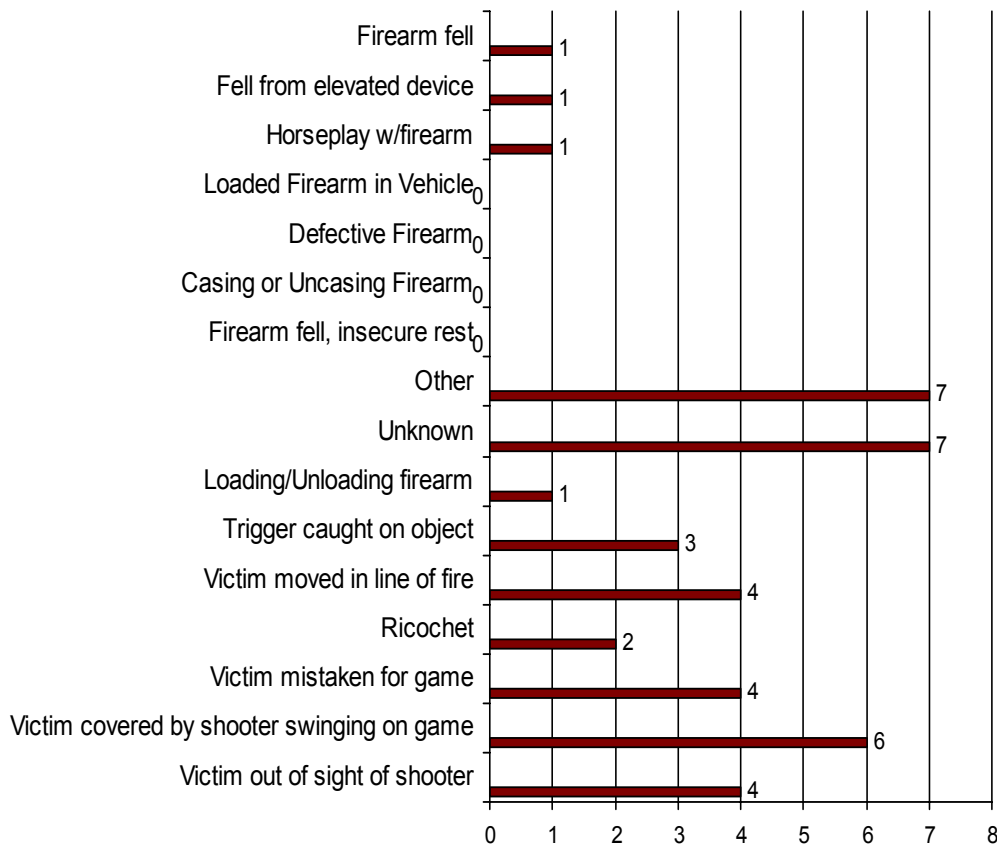


Action



## Contributing Factors to Incidents

All Incidents 2004

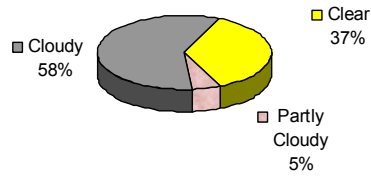




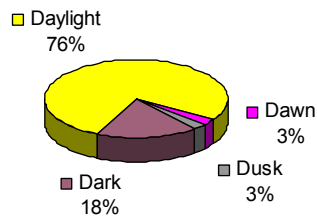
# INCIDENT CONDITIONS

All Incidents 2004

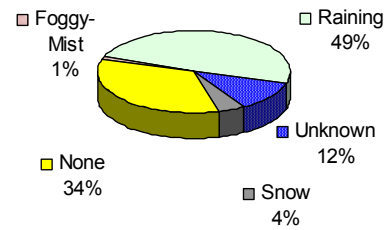
## Weather



## Light Conditions



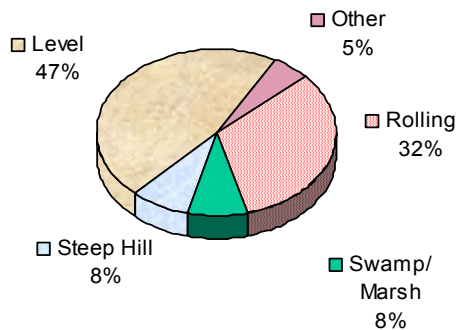
## Precipitation



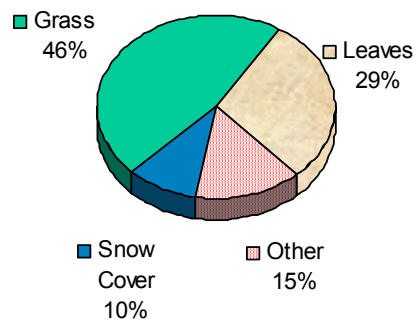
# INCIDENT CONDITIONS

All Incidents 2004

## Topography



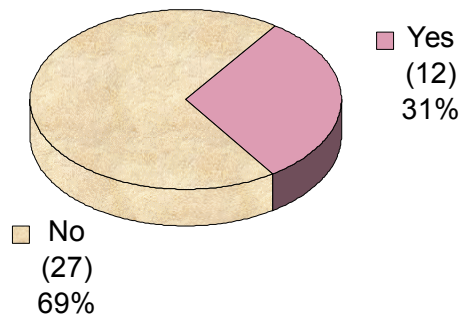
## Ground Cover



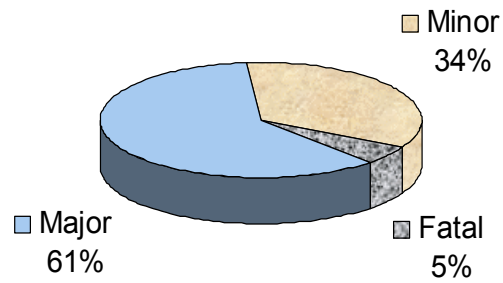
# INCIDENT STATISTICS

All Incidents 2004

## Self Inflicted



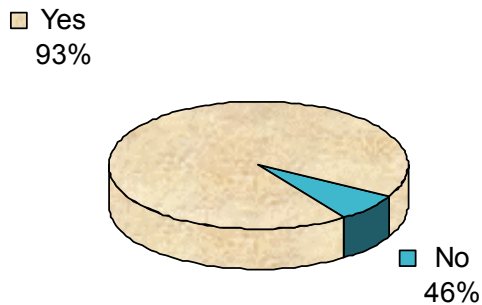
## Type of Injury



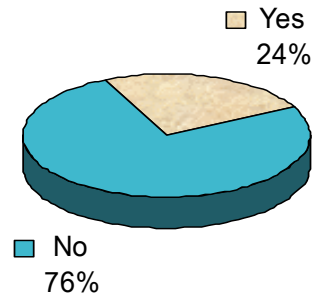
# Shooter/Victim Information

Two-Party Incidents 2004

## Members of the Same Hunting Party?



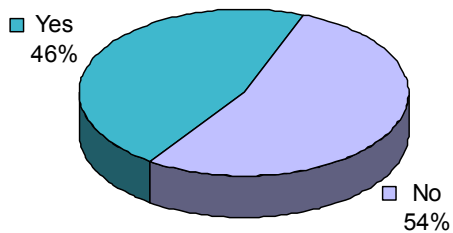
## Could Shooter See Victim?



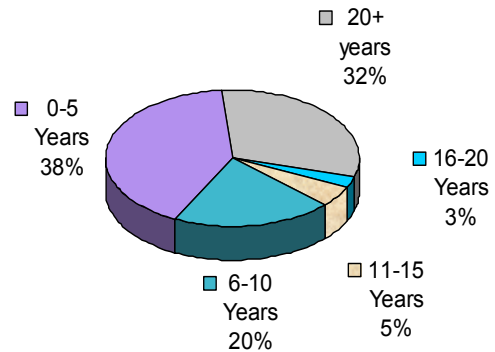
# INCIDENT SHOOTER STATISTICS

All Incidents 2004

## Hunter Education Graduate?



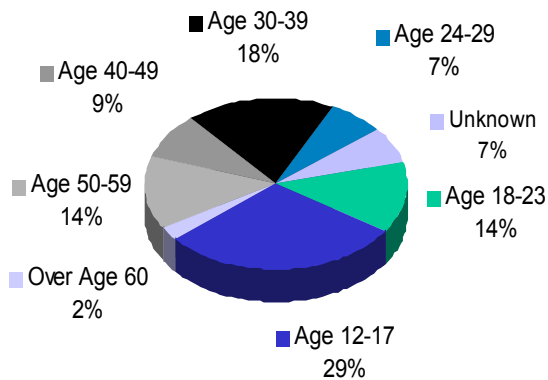
## Years of Hunting Experience



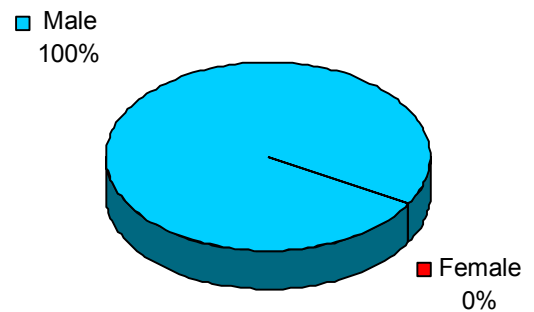
# INCIDENT SHOOTER STATISTICS

All Incidents 2004

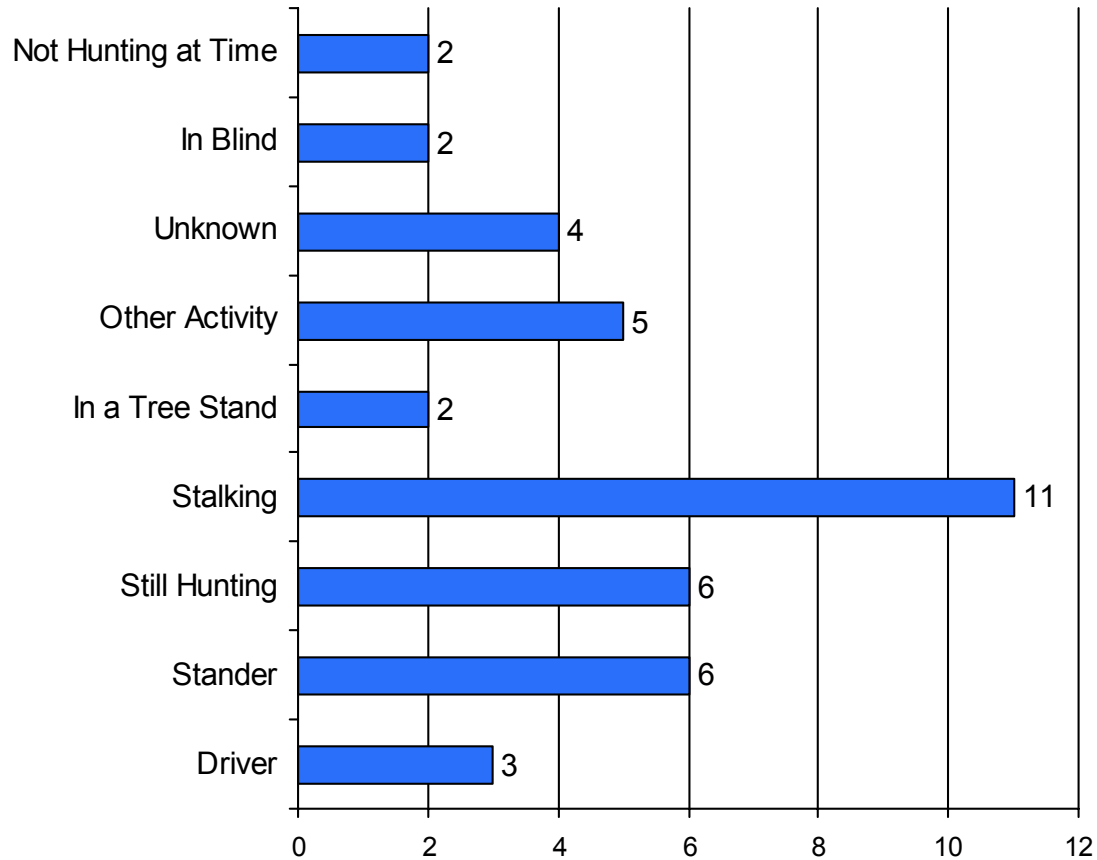
## Age



## Gender

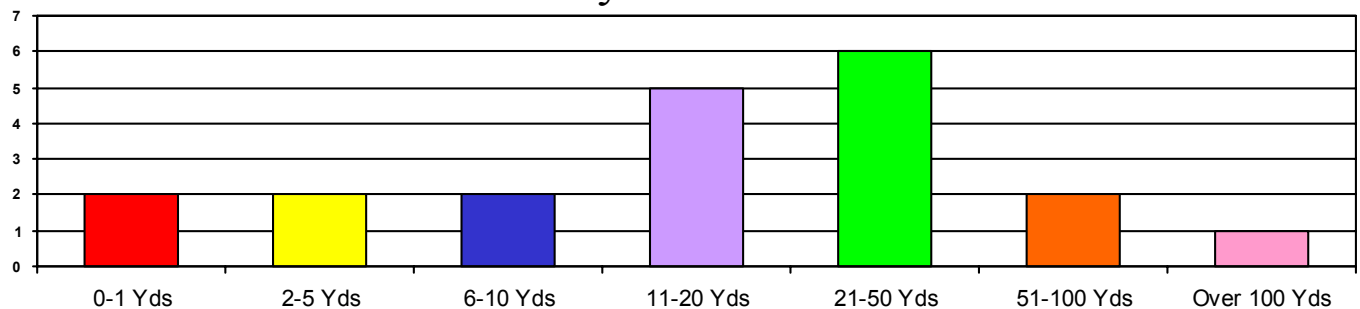


## Activity Shooter Was Involved In All Incidents 2004



## DISTANCE FROM MUZZLE TO WOUND

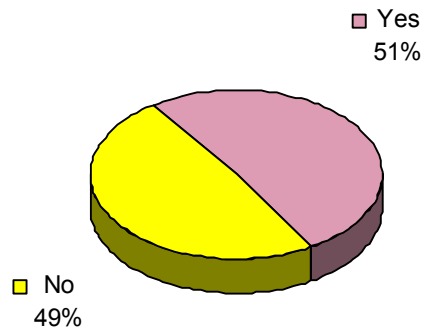
### Two-Party Incidents 2004



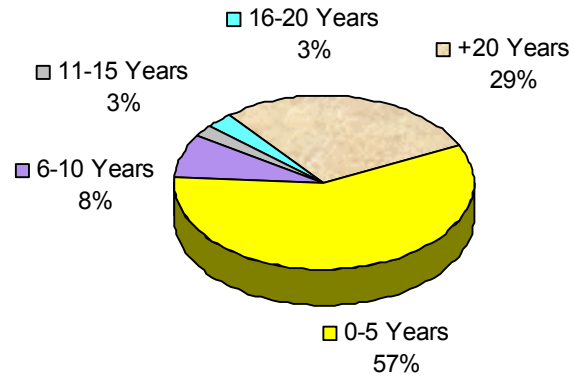
# INCIDENT VICTIM STATISTICS

All Incidents 2004

Hunter Education Graduate?



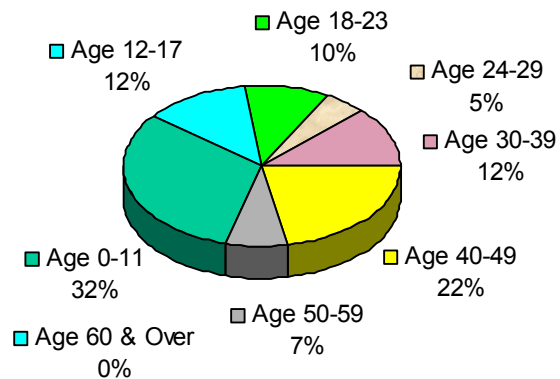
Years of Hunting Experience



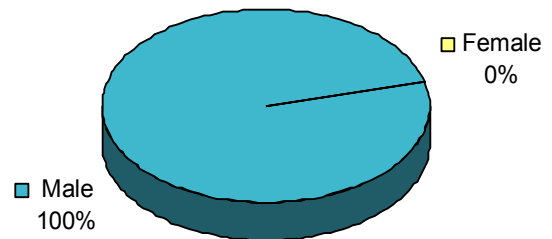
# INCIDENT VICTIM STATISTICS

All Incidents 2004

Age

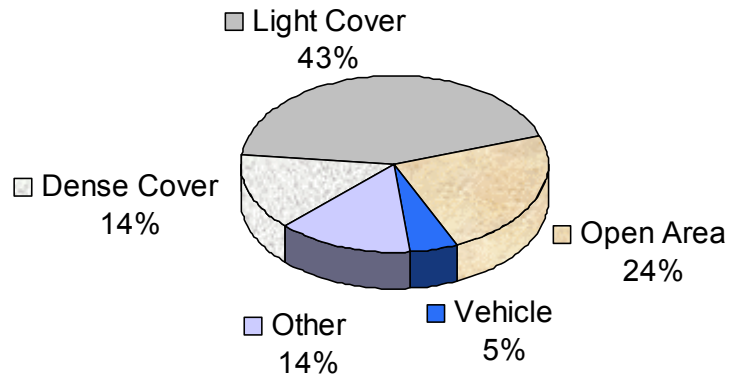


Gender



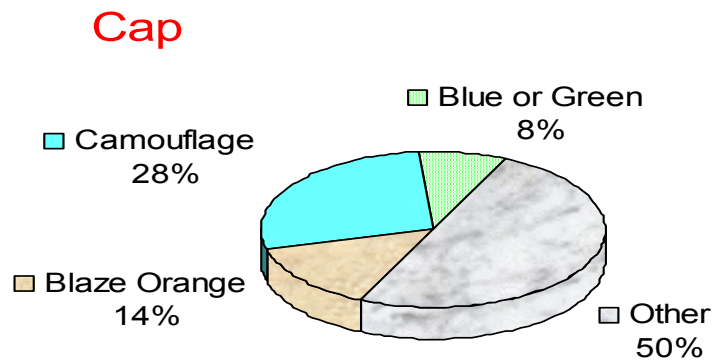
# INCIDENT VICTIM SURROUNDINGS

## Two-Party Incidents 2004



# INCIDENT VICTIM CLOTHING COLOR

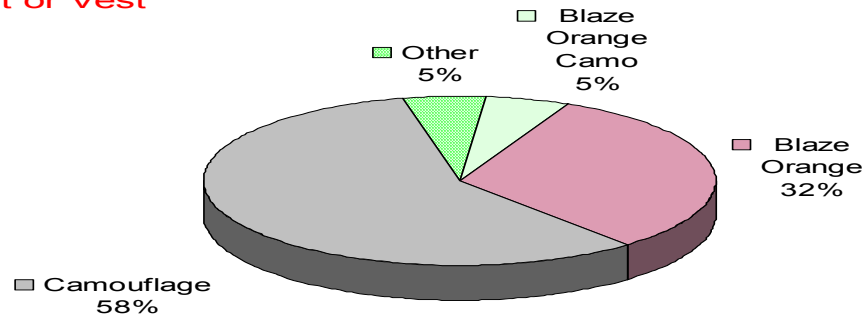
## Two-Party Incidents 2004



# INCIDENT VICTIM CLOTHING COLOR

## Two-Party Incidents 2004

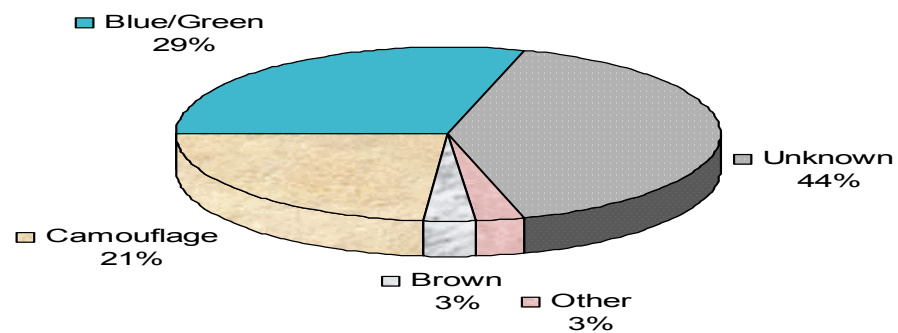
### Coat or Vest



# INCIDENT VICTIM CLOTHING COLOR

## Two-Party Incidents 2004

### Trousers



**2004 Hunting Incidents by County  
(All Incidents)**

County	# Incidents
Adams	1
Chippewa	1
Clark	1
Dodge	1
Dunn	1
Eau Claire	1
Fond du Lac	2
Grant	1
Green	1
Iowa	2
Jackson	1
Jefferson	1
Juneau	1
Kewaunee	2
La Crosse	1
Lafayette	1
Marathon	1
Marinette	1
Monroe	1
Oconto	1
Outagamie	1
Pepin	2
Richland	2
Rock	2
Rusk	2
Shawano	2
Sheboygan	1
St. Croix	1
Taylor	1
Vilas	1
Waupaca	2
Waushara	2
Wood	1
Total Reported	41

**2004 Hunting Incidents By  
Deer Management Unit  
(All Incidents)**

Deer Management Unit	# Incidents
18	2
23	1
24	1
35	1
45	1
47	1
49A	1
53	1
54A	1
56	1
57A	1
58	1
59A	1
59B	2
59C	1
59D	1
61	1
63A	3
65B	1
68A	1
69	2
71	2
72	1
73D	1
73E	2
75	1
75D	1
76A	2
77A	1
80	1
80B	1
Total Reported	41



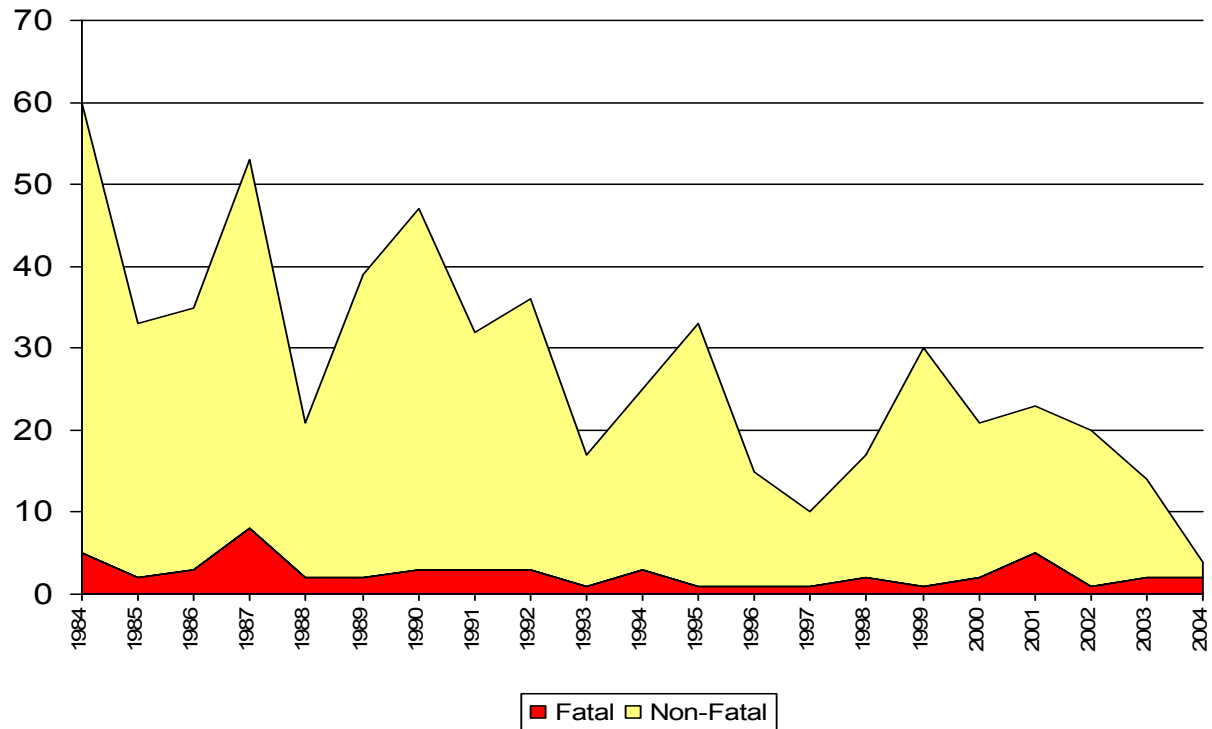
**2004 Deer Gun Season Incidents  
by County**

County	# Incidents
Juneau	1
Shawano	1
Pepin	1
Rock	1
Total Reported	4

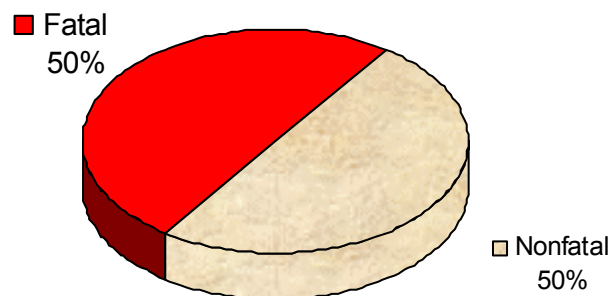
**2004 Deer Gun Season Incidents  
By Deer Management Unit**

Deer Management Unit	# Incidents
53	1
47	1
61	1
77A	1
Total Reported	4

# History of Gun Deer Incidents

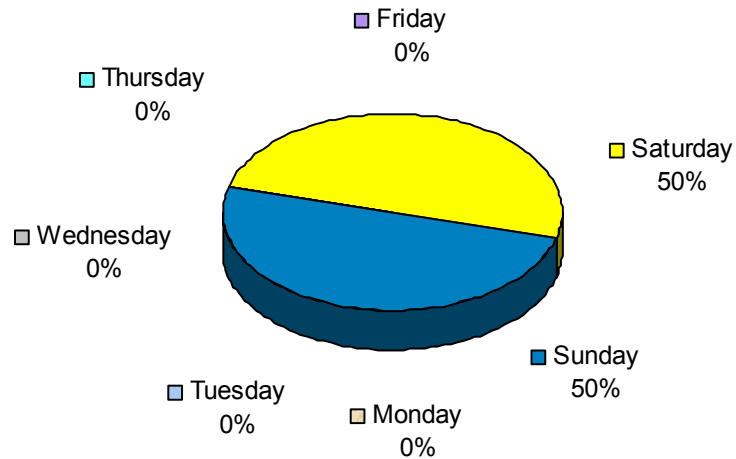


## 2004 GUN DEER SEASON INCIDENTS



# INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK

## 2004 Gun Deer Season



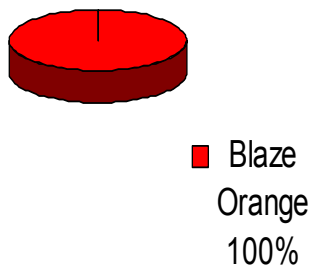
# INCIDENT VICTIM CLOTHING COLOR

## 2004 Gun Deer Season - Two-Party Incidents

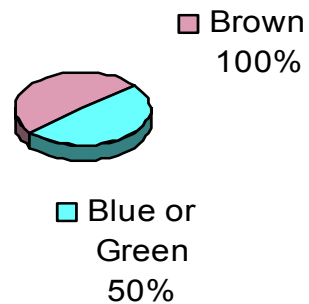
### Cap



### Coat/Vest

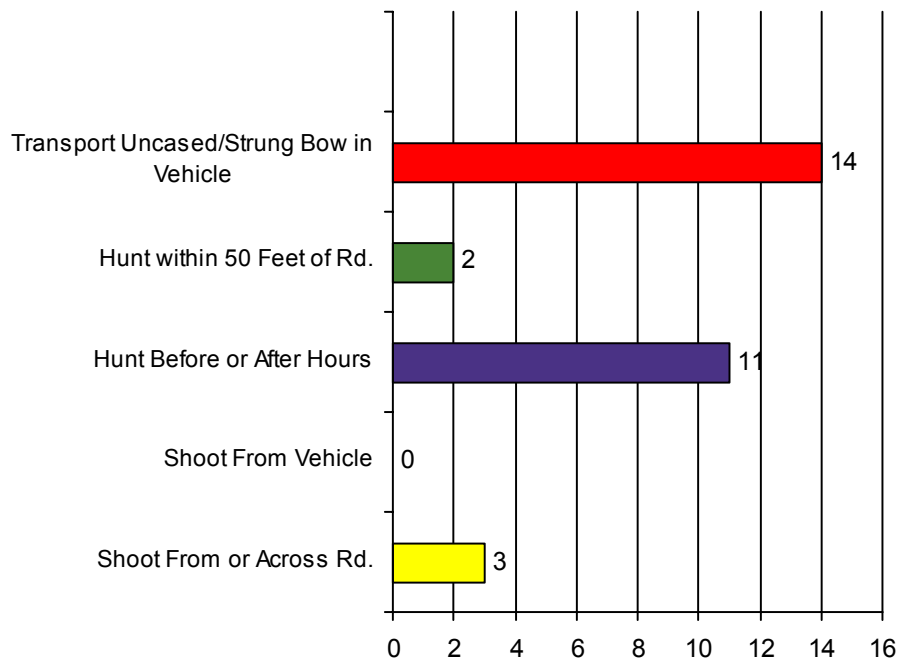


### Trousers



## 2004 DEER SEASON SAFETY VIOLATIONS

### Archery



## 2004 DEER SEASON SAFETY VIOLATIONS

### Firearms

